

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 066803

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, TU, GR, GW

SUBJECT: FRG MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO GREECE AND TURKEY

REFS: (A) BONN 4672; (B) BONN 3581 (NOTAL)

1. WEST GERMAN AMBASSADOR VON STADEN CALLED ON DEPUTY SECRETARY ON INSTRUCTIONS MARCH 24 TO INFORM USG THAT FORNOFF STATE SECRETARY WAS SCHEDULED TO TELL GREEK AND TURKISH AMBASSADORS IN BONN TODAY OF GERMAN AID RESUMPTION. VON STADEN NOTED THAT ONLY GOG, GOT, AND USG BEING TOLD ABOUT AID RESUMPTION PRIOR TO COMPLETION OF PARLIAMENTARY CONSULTATION, WHICH FRG THINKS WILL PRESENT NO PROBLEM. AMBASSADOR SAID GOG AND GOT BEING INFORMED OF FACT OF RESUMPTION OF AID TO BOTH, WITH NEITHER BEING PROVIDED DETAILS OF AID TO OTHER.

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2. ACCORDING VON STADEN, SINCE 1975 FRG BUDGET CONTAINS NO FUNDS FOR ASSISTANCE TO GREECE, GERMAN SHIPMENTS THIS YEAR WILL COME FROM EXCESS STOCKS, WITHOUT COST TO GREECE. AM-BASSADOR THOUGHT DELIVERIES WOULD BEGIN IN MAY.
3. VON STADEN SAID SHIPMENTS WILL BE RESUMED TO TURKEY IMMEDIATELY TO COMPLETE SEVENTH AID TRANCHE (ACCORDING TO HIM, ABOUT DM 20-30 MILLION REMAINS), AND TURKS ARE BEING INVITED TO SIGN EIGHTH TRANCHE WITHIN FEW DAYS. NEW SLICE WILL BE WORTH DM 100, WITH ABOUT 80 PERCENT OF SHIPMENTS TO BE NEW MATERIEL AND REMAINDER SUPPLUS STOCKS.
4. DEPUTY SECRETARY WELCOMED FRG DECISION AND THANKED AM-BASSADOR FOR INFORMING US. DEPUTY SECRETARY SAID RESUMPTION OF GERMAN ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY PARTICULARLY HELPFUL GIVEN PRESENT US ARMS SUSPENSION.
5. ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN, WHO ALSO PRESENT, RECALLED THAT DURING HIS RECENT CONVERSATIONS IN BONN FRG DEFMIN LEBER ASKED WHETHER, GIVEN POSSIBILITY OF DELAY IN BEGINNING GERMAN ARMS SHIPMENT TO GREECE, US MIGHT IN MEANTIME DO MORE FOR GREECE THAN IT HAS BEEN DOING. HARTMAN NOTED THAT US HAS IN ANY CASE BEEN HELPING GREECE WITH CREDIT AND SALES AND THAT WE ARE NOW EXAMINING VERY RECENT GREEK REQUEST FOR RESUMPTION OF GRANT ASSISTANCE. HARTMAN SAID IT IS UNLIKELY US WILL EXTEND GRANT ASSISTANCE TO GREECE BEFORE CONGRESS RESTORES AID TO TURKEY AND THAT, CONVERSELY, IF CONGRESS AGREES TO RESUME TURKISH PROGRAM, IT WILL PROBABLY INSIST ON EXTENDING GRANT AID TO GREECE AS WELL.

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